

Whig & Chronicle.

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PROSPECTUS

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WHIG AND CHRONICLE,
KNOXVILLE, TENN.

—Gen. M. D. Leggett, late Commissioner of Patents, and ex-Gov. R. B. Hayes are mentioned as probable Republican candidates for Governor at the coming Ohio election.

—The Memphis *Avant-courier* prints nearly a column of Government Post-office advertisements. Adopting the usual logic of Democratic politicians, the *Avant-courier* is in favor of the third term.

—A rural adherent of the great Democratic party is disgusted. He regards Hon. Horace Maynard's going as a Minister to preach to the Turks as a political trick, intended to gain favor with the church people.

—Andrew Johnson stands about the same chance to be selected as the next Democratic candidate for President, that Theodore Tilton does to succeed Pope Pius. His star has gone down behind the Western horizon.

—The New York *Tribune* says that "impartial observers of the course of the Democratic party during the past winter, especially in the Western States, are not overwhelmingly impressed with the conviction that the good of the country demands a restoration of the Democracy to power."

—The editorial page of the *Chattanooga Times* reminds us of the maps of the interior of Africa as they appeared in our school-boy days, indicated as "Unexplored Regions." It is possible that our cotemporary is published in the "flats" and is still suffering the effects of the March freshet.

—The *Avant-courier* thinks the New Departure of 1872 was not a mistake. Andrew Johnson the *Avant-courier's* model statesman said the party took Greeley as one would a crooked stick to beat a mad dog. We presume our Memphis cotemporary wants to continue a while longer in the "crooked stick" business.

—Vice President Wilson has said that he does not know a man in Massachusetts who is in favor of the third term, whereupon some sage Democrat observed, that the Vice President did not enjoy a personal acquaintance with the Federal office-holders. And now every little eight-by-ten Democratic organ in the land chimes in and grinds out that sentiment as original.

—The *Banner* talks about the "public test" business as one who speaks by the card. It has been there and knows how it is itself. It had a "long pull and a strong pull" at the "public test" a few years ago, and when "waning" time came it was the most bolterous calf that ever bawled "for more." But the Legislature was forced by public opinion to abolish the office of Public Printer, and the *Banner* is not so fat and sleek as it was five years ago. But it can bawl yet, and hasn't forgotten the "test."

SPEAKING of the inhumanity of the last Legislature in not providing for the unfortunate insane of the State, the *Clarksville Tribune* makes the following strong yet just remarks:

"War, with its resultants, defeat, disaster, poverty and despair, has swelled the ranks of the insane. They rot and freeze, and kill themselves in our jails. One Legislature attempts to provide for this unhappy class of our population: another takes it away and calls it retrenchment!"

In all the reverberations from the halls of legislation, that have sounded down to us, who ever heard of a Legislature that "retrenched" by taking away what had been given to the poor, innocent, helpless, demented people? This is literally retrenchment with a vengeance falling on a class incapable of pleading for themselves!"

A DISTINCTION WITHOUT A DIFFERENCE.

We are told by Democratic newspapers that the Republican party is not entitled to the support or the sympathy of the Southern people for the reason that the policy of the party has been to oppress that people. This is the common argument, and the most effective one used by the class of politicians who lead the Democratic hosts. We do not admit the truth of the statement. The oppression of the Southern people has been no part of the policy of the Republican party. It has adopted certain measures to protect the rights of that portion of the Southern people who did not see fit to join in the war against the Federal Union, but in doing this, it did not follow that any class of men were oppressed. It is true that the effect of some of these measures was to exclude a certain class of men from office. They were excluded for a time. The wisdom of such a course we do not now propose to discuss; but if it was wrong, no man had more to do with it than Andrew Johnson, a man who now seems to be in favor with a large portion of the Southern Democracy. But suppose the effect was as stated, and Southern ex-Confederates were prevented from laying down their swords, doffing their grey uniforms and walking into seats in the Federal Congress, judicial stations, etc., the next day after they were paroled, is the policy of the Democratic party different? There is not a day that we do not read in our Democratic exchanges solemn notes of warning against the policy of nominating a representative Southern Democrat on the Presidential ticket of 1876. Again, the party is warned not to elect a Southern Democrat as Speaker of the next House of Representatives. The effect of such an act, it is feared, might prove disastrous to the party in the future. The same may be said of other positions. Then it appears that Northern Democrats are just as averse to placing prominent Southern ex-Confederates on their tickets as Northern Republicans. It is true they are only governed by considerations of expediency, but the effect is all the same, and that is to exclude representative Southern Democrats from certain offices.

This is just what Republicans are charged with doing, but for them to do it is oppression, while for the Northern Democrats to do precisely the same thing is an entirely different matter. Divest the question of all the hypocritical sentimentality thrown around it by interested politicians and it is just as we have stated it. The oppression so much talked of when presented in its reality amounts to very little, and if it is oppression at all, the Democratic leaders are too cowardly to take a different course.

Why is it that Jeff, Davis, the great rebel leader is not prominent in the parties of to-day? Why is it that he is not called upon to take a prominent and active part in his party contests? Is it because his sentiments are distasteful? Not at all. He is personally as popular with a large proportion of the Democratic party as he ever was, but they fear the effect. That is all. Hence he is oppressed by his own party, by being excluded from office.

THE DIFFERENCE.

The Democracy seem to enjoy their success in Connecticut as a harbinger of their restoration to power in 1876. Connecticut, in the spring of 1872, gave a Democratic majority, but in the fall of that year gave a large majority for the Republican party. When national issues are squarely made between the Republican and Democratic parties, Connecticut will continue to range itself on the side of the party which is so intimately associated with the salvation of the Nation and the development of the country.

The people must not forget that the Democratic party, when in the pride of its power, denied that Congress had power to improve our rivers, unless adjacent to the sea, and for many years appropriations for the improvement of the navigation of our great interior watercourses were withheld, and all such enterprises were abandoned.

Congress, under the Constitution as interpreted by such profound jurists as Andrew Johnson, was powerless to engage in any great national en-

terprise. Under James Buchanan's administration it was denied the power of self-preservation, when menaced by Secessionists, and had the Government been left in the hands of such Democrats as Buchanan and Jerry Black, the Nation would have long ere this ceased to exist. Thank God, all this was changed after the Republican party came into power. The doctrine that the Union made us a compact Nation, and that the Constitution clothed the Government with all powers necessary to the preservation of its existence, was avowed as a cardinal doctrine by the Republican party. The issue was squarely made, and the verdict was pronounced in favor of our complete nationality, and the Republican party has done more to develop the wealth and power of the Nation in ten years than the Democratic party had done during the whole time that it had had control of the Government.

What is to be their policy should the Secession Democracy obtain the full power of the Government? Their old doctrines will forbid the improvement of our interior water courses. They will endeavor to obtain support in the Western States, but the people of the Western States are a progressive people, an intelligent and enterprising people, and they do not subscribe to the doctrine that the constitution is to be considered a straight jacket, to prevent the free action of the people in carrying out great enterprises by which the resources of the country will be developed, and the welfare and happiness of the people be promoted.

The people of all parts of Tennessee are as much interested in this question as are the people of any other State. The people have outgrown the old narrow Democratic idea, that the General Government has only power to carry the mails and make treaties with Foreign Governments.

As Mr. Lincoln so tersely expressed it, they believe it to be "a Government of the people, by the people and for the people," and that it has all the powers necessary for its own defence and preservation, and to protect its citizens in the enjoyment of their rights, and to aid them in developing its wealth and resources, thereby adding to their prosperity and happiness, and to its strength and power as a Nation. The Democratic party has outlived its usefulness. Instead of leading the Nation to a higher development, it is but a conglomeration of grumblers, a party of negation; opposed to everything now in use as policies, and afraid or incompetent to suggest a new policy upon which to administer the Government.

The people will not repose confidence in a party that can avow no beneficent measures to build up, but whose avowals are to pull down and destroy the policies now in existence. It is not difficult for any one to find fault, and a fool can destroy in an hour that which cost the labor of years. It was not an evidence of wisdom in the farmer who had his barn filled with grain and fodder, to set fire to the waste straw in the barn in order to exterminate a few rats that had infested his graneries. His mode of expelling the rats was effectual, but he found that the fire left nothing of grain, fodder or buildings, but with the hated rats all else was destroyed. Before we employ an agency, such as the Secession Democracy, to tear down, let us know what they propose to substitute in place of that which they propose to destroy, or we may, like the farmer, find that, in destroying a few hated rats, we have buried ourselves with them in a common ruin.

A DISGUSTED CONSERVATIVE.

The Cincinnati *Commercial* is independent in politics, and in the last election supported Greeley for President. It charges all sorts of stealing and fraud upon the present Democratic Legislature of Ohio, and gives expression to its disgust of modern Democracy after the following fashion:

"Senator Gordon, of Georgia, says well that 'if there is anything the people of this country desire it is an honest party.' But where are they to look for it? Does Democracy promise it? Tried by its record in the States where it has been tested, in the towns and cities where it has control, and the only difference, if any, to be observed, is in the eagerness to get hold of the money and spend it. Changing from Republican to Democratic administrations is likely to prove as valuable an experience as that of the fox, which swam a river to rid itself of a swarm of pestiferous flies,

and found on landing, on the opposite shore that he had exchanged one swarm that had been swarmed with his blood for another whose hunger was yet to be appeased."

THE only defense or reply to the facts and figures contained in our letter to the New York *Tribune* on Johnson, made by those journals in Tennessee which supported A. J.'s election to the Senate, is that our object was to advertise our newspaper enterprise. Well, suppose that was our object, is that any reply to the overwhelming array of evidence by which, as the Cincinnati *Gazette* says, "the bottom has been knocked out of Johnson's speech?" One little Johnson paper says: "Oh, your circulation is limited; you wrote the *Tribune* to have your letter extensively read." Of course our circulation is limited, as is the circulation of every paper in Tennessee. The circulation of every newspaper in every Southern State is limited. Nothing else could be expected in communities and States where there has been no system of free public instruction, and where the towns and cities are small and advertising custom limited in comparison with the great journals of the great cities.

The circulation of every newspaper in Tennessee combined, political and religious, does not equal that of the New York or Chicago *Tribune* or the Cincinnati *Gazette* or *Commercial*, and because we wished to "advertise" the truth of history and expose the premeditated misrepresentations of Senator Johnson, that we selected as our medium of addressing the public a metropolitan journal.

And we will say to these Johnsonites, who are writhing under our exposure of their master, that we have no difficulty in "advertising" our opinions through the columns of journals which would not give them ten lines to express their views on any subject.

After our letter was sent to the *Tribune* (of which we kept no copy) and after it was published, that we were preparing an answer to Johnson, we received a telegram from one of the greatest newspapers in the North, requesting us to furnish it a copy of our letter for publication.

If such puerile stuff as that referring to is all the reply Mr. Johnson's friends can make to our letter they had as well acknowledge defeat by silence.

Artemus Ward referred to a friend of his, lately deceased, as "a quiet, decent corpse." If A. J.'s speech may be regarded as a specimen of his Senatorial career, he may be truthfully characterized as a political corpse. And, for the sake of the public at large, it is to be hoped he, and such of his friends as blindly endorse all he does, will make "quiet, decent corpses."

THE Democratic papers in discussing the question of the loss of the school fund—more than two millions five hundred thousand dollars—always ignore the main point and harp upon the loss of about three hundred thousand dollars in Rutter's bank at Memphis. Why don't they come out like men and tell what became of the original fund? Tell the honest people of Tennessee whom you have so long attempted to deceive, what became of the \$2,679,018.33, the amount of the school fund in the hands of Democratic officials in Tennessee in 1861. Speak out and tell the whole truth or forever hold your peace.

WHAT GEN. BUTLER SAYS ABOUT THE TORBETT ISSUE DECISION.

Soon after the decision of the Supreme Court of Tennessee on the Torbett Issue question, the editor of this paper addressed a letter on the subject to Gen. B. F. Butler, whose ability as a lawyer is universally admitted. After mature deliberation, that gentleman replies as follows:

WASHINGTON, April 20th, 1875.
SIR: I have yours enclosing the decision. I am inclined to think with you that it is unconstitutional. Why does not somebody in the State of Tennessee have the case appealed to the Supreme Court as it should be done, and thoroughly argued, because it is an entering wedge to having all those war debts paid. Hoping you enjoy better health, I am

Yours truly,
BENJ. F. BUTLER.

Hon. W. G. Brownlow, Knoxville, Tenn.

The people of Tennessee will never consent to pay this most unrighteous debt until it has been passed upon by the Supreme Court of the United States. That the Torbett notes were issued for the benefit of the rebellion

is a fact about which no well informed man has a doubt.

If our Attorney General fails to take this question to the Supreme Court of the United States, we would like to see it appealed in some other way and argued before that high tribunal by Gen. Butler. No man would argue it more ably than he.

IMPEACHMENT OF FRAZIER.

We stated that Judge Frazier was "relieved of his disabilities by a Democratic Constitutional Convention." The Nashville *Union and American* reminds us that we have made a mistake in favor of Frazier, for it was a Democratic Legislature which relieved him, instead of a Constitutional Convention. We thank the *Union and American* for the correction. A Constitutional Convention has far more power, and its actions command more respect than those of a Legislature. The point we made was, that his disabilities were removed by Democrats. The impression sought to be made by the *Union and American* is that they were removed by Republicans. Here are its words:

"His disabilities were removed by act of the Legislature of Nov. 11, 1869, two months before the Constitutional Convention met. The members of that Legislature were elected under the franchise law of the Brownlow regime, which disfranchised so many thousands of the people of Tennessee; and further, every member of that Legislature had, when he became a candidate, to take what is known as the iron-clad oath. These are the men who removed the disabilities imposed upon Judge Frazier by a malignant partisan Legislature, for simply performing a duty imposed upon him by the law and his oath of office."

Now, every man in Tennessee who knows anything, knows that the Legislature of 1869 was not elected under the "franchise law of the Brownlow regime," or any other franchise law. There was not a single county in the State where any regard was paid to that law; and there was not a man in the State who did not have a certificate to vote who wanted to vote.

The Legislature of 1869 had just twelve Republican members out of one hundred and nine. The same Legislature elected a Democratic Senator, and came near passing a resolution to throw out of the State Capitol a portrait of Gen. George H. Thomas, and would have passed it but for fear of the effect it would have had North and West. This was a most appropriate body to remove the disabilities of Frazier, but let not the *Union and American* attempt upon the public so gross an imposition as to say it was "elected under the franchise law" which disfranchised, what it has said a hundred times, constituted a "majority of the people of Tennessee."

If that Legislature of 1869 had been "elected under the franchise law," the overwhelming majority of the Democratic party would have been debarred the privilege of voting, and if this had been the case, how could a Democratic Legislature have been chosen?

MORE DEMOCRATIC SWINDLING.

We give below a very significant statute passed by the present worthless Legislature. That body, by this act, has given away to some favorite or favorites, money which they owe the people of the State, through the State Bank. There is rascality at the bottom of this thing somewhere. The Democratic Legislature of Tennessee is very liberal with other people's money. This is another of the long train of outrages connected with this Bank:

An Act to release certain parties from liability to the State on account of notes executed by them to the Bank of Tennessee.

SECTION 1. Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Tennessee, That on all notes or other evidences of debt now in the hands of Samuel Watson, Trustee of the Bank of Tennessee, the original consideration whereof was money loaned by said bank, or any of its branches to be used in the construction or equipment of any railroad or railroads in the State, which railroads have been sold in foreclosure of the mortgage held by the State for State aid furnished, and no fund realized to pay such notes after liquidating the State's lien, the State hereby relinquishes all claim she may have for pro rata payment to, and in favor of parties bound on such notes or other evidences of debt.

SEC. 2. Be it further enacted, That Samuel Watson or his successor in the office of Trustee of said bank, and whoever has now, or may hereafter have control of the State's interest in assets of said bank, be, and he is hereby directed to take no step toward the

collection of any interest the State may be found to have in, and to any side coming within the scope and purview of the first section of this act, and upon the winding up of the affairs of the Bank of Tennessee, or in the process of winding the same up, when it shall be ascertained what amount of interest the State has in such notes, notes or other evidences of debt, he shall enter a credit thereon of an amount equal to such interest.

THE CENTENNIAL CELEBRATIONS.

The reported proceedings of the late Centennial celebration at Concord and Lexington, show that a most patriotic and commendable spirit prevailed throughout. In the speeches, the toasts, poems nor in any other part of the exercises was there anything to offend the most fastidious. No allusions were indulged in that could provoke the indignation of even a waspish individual of the D. H. Hill stripe, or of a malignant Union hater like Raphael Semmes. We are gratified at this but not surprised. The New Englanders are a magnanimous people, and do not find it necessary to harrow up the unpleasantness of the past to maintain their prestige in the future.

We trust this may be the beginning of an era of good feeling, such as has not blessed the country for years. Now let us have a rousing non-partisan, non-sectional celebration at Mecklenburgh next month, and then such a Centennial at Philadelphia next year as will astonish the world, no less with our national greatness than with our national brotherly kindness. Let us make Philadelphia on that occasion a city of Brotherly Love indeed, where the people from every State in the Union may meet and rejoice over our common heritage, the fame of the patriotic fathers of the Revolution of 1776. We can there bury our jealousies and entertain no rivalry except that of rendering each State in the Union the equal in every respect of every other State.

THE Rome (Ga.) *Courier* says: "If the philosophy of Greeleyism is to be again tried, we have no hope of Democratic success next year. We shall be worse defeated than we were 1872, and we were worse defeated than we were in 1868, when we stood upon a Democratic platform."

An idea of the character of platform desired by the *Courier* may be gathered from the following sentence in the same editorial:

"Are we to accept the partisan reconstruction measures which forced upon free States, at the point of the bayonet, an acceptance of constitutional amendments which were thus fraudulently adopted in violation of the Constitution as the legitimate results of the war?"

NEWS ITEMS.

There are only five counties in Ohio through which railroads do not pass.

General Buford, the well-known turfman of Kentucky, has been nominated for the Legislature of that State.

A private letter from Gen. Robert E. Lee, written in January, 1861, has just been made public, in which he takes ground in opposition to secession.

On Sunday evening, Centennial services were held in the Old North Church, Boston. Hundreds were turned away unable to gain admittance. The building was draped with flags and otherwise decorated, and in the steeple were hung lanterns commemorative of the signal given to Paul Revere.

The Baltimore *Sun* ably defends the proposition that Mecklenburgh county, North Carolina, is "the real cradle of American liberty." Furthermore, it advances the interesting fact that the Scotch Whig blood which flowed in the veins of these North Carolina people was "the first in this country to boil over in the tide of independence."

The Third Term.

(From the Philadelphia Bulletin.)
Vice President Wilson is reported to have said that he does not know a man in Massachusetts who is in favor of electing President Grant for a third term. He might have gone a little further and said that he never met an intelligent man who really believed that the President wants a third term or would accept it if it were offered to him. We defy the journals that are harping upon this subject to produce one word or the record of one action, on the part of President Grant or any one properly authorized to represent him, which indicates in the slightest degree that he has such aspirations. If any of these loud talkers have possession of any such evidence, let them produce it now or shut up.

A Big Man.

"That carpet," said a dealer to an old farmer the other day, "that carpet is \$1 35 per yard; but seeing it's you, you can have it for \$1 20."
While he was cutting it off the farmer proudly said to his wife:

"I never met him before, but you see he takes me for some big man. Now, then, Marlar, see what 'tis to have a husband who looks smartish!"—*Detroit Free Press.*

"Father," replied a Cairo girl, tears in her eyes, "you may jaw and jaw, and howl, and rave, and rip, and tear, but I'll marry John Stewart if I die for it!" And the old man leaned back and realized that he might as well try to pull a locomotive up hill.